

firmed them, but then the thousand and *first* upset them completely."

An English reviewer has objected to the amount of space given by Dr. Smith to the nitrogen bacteria, ginger-beer plant, etc., and also to the full abstracts of other investigators' papers. Now, it seems that neither of these objections is very serious for two reasons: first, the publications of the Carnegie Institution are not intended to be used as text-books by indiscriminating young students but are for specialists who can choose those things in a book that are of most use to them in their own immediate problems; secondly, very few of us are able to read foreign languages with such ease that we *prefer* to do so and, furthermore, to have these abstracts brought together in one place is a saving of time. The author's style of informal discussion increases the readability of the book, a result not to be scorned even in a scientific publication.

On the whole one may say that this volume is one well worth reading by people interested in botanical, bacteriological or phytopathological matters even if a highly technical knowledge of these subjects is not possessed. To the specialist in this field it should be an inspiration and a mine of valuable data. It is hoped that a third volume will soon appear in which we may find the brilliant researches of Dr. Smith and his co-workers upon the plant tumors.—E. D. C.

## PROCEEDINGS OF THE CLUB

MARCH 27, 1912

The meeting of March 27, 1912, was held in the lecture room of the New York Botanical Garden at 3 P.M. Vice-President Barnhart presided. Forty persons were present.

The minutes of the meetings of February 28 and March 12 were approved. The resignations of Mrs. M. E. Soth and F. K. Vreeland were read and accepted and Dr. R. Ellsworth Call, Geo. E. Hastings, and Frank M. Wheat, of the DeWitt Clinton High School, New York City, were elected to membership.

The announced scientific program consisted of a lecture on "Organization of Pediastrum Colony" by Professor R. A. Harper. The lecture was illustrated with lantern slides.

Meeting adjourned.

B. O. DODGE,  
*Secretary*

#### APRIL 24, 1912

The meeting of April 24, 1912, was held in the Laboratory of the New York Botanical Garden at 3:15 P.M., Dr. W. A. Merrill presiding. Fifteen persons were present.

The announced scientific program consisted of a paper on "Plant Hairs," by Dr. William Mansfield.

The speaker exhibited a number of figures representing various types of plant hairs and showed how the four main types, simple, compound, septate and non-septate, could be made the basis of a key by which many species of plants could be identified.

Meeting adjourned.

B. O. DODGE,  
*Secretary*

#### MAY 14, 1912

The meeting was held in the American Museum of Natural History at 8:15 P.M. President Burgess presided. Nine persons were present.

The scientific program consisted of an illustrated lecture on "Dr. Charles H. Shaw's Botanical Studies in the Selkirks," by Miss Caroline S. Romer.

Meeting adjourned.

B. O. DODGE,  
*Secretary*

#### NEWS ITEMS

At a recent meeting of the New York College of Pharmacy the treasurer, Mr. C. O. Bigelow, introduced an amendment to the by-laws, at the request of Dean Rusby, providing for the appointment of an associate dean, in order that the dean might be